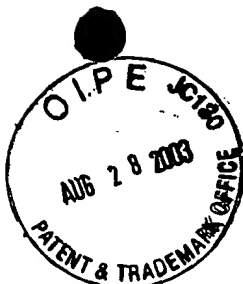


F-7041



RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2823

M/B (N.E)
J. Steptoe
9-18-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kiyohiko TAKAGI, et al.
Serial No. : 09/892,023
Filed : June 26, 2001
For : DRYING ETCHING METHOD
Group Art Unit : 2823
Examiner : William D. Coleman

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
on August 26, 2003.

Jacqueline M. Steady
(Name)

Jacqueline M. Steady
(Signature)

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MAILSTOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action of January 21, 2003 entry of the present amendment to place the application into condition for allowance or remove issues from appeal, if required, is respectfully requested. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: